

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 STATE 060247

60  
ORIGIN NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PRS-01 PA-04 USIA-15 RSC-01 /034 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/ARN:DAKORN:JFC  
APPROVED BY NEA/ARN - MR. KORN

NEA/P - MR. BRIGGS

S/PRS - MR. HARE

----- 093832

R 261934Z MAR 74  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO USINT DAMASCUS  
INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 060247

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OTRA (KRAFT, JOSEPH), SY., U.S.

SUBJECT: VISITS BY JOSEPH KRAFT AND ANGUS DEMING OF NEWSWEEK

1. COLUMNIST JOSEPH KRAFT INFORMS DEPARTMENT HE PLANS TO VISIT SYRIA IN APRIL TO DO REPORTING PIECE ALONG LINES OF "LETTERS" FROM CAIRO AND FROM ISRAEL PUBLISHED LAST MONTHS IN NEW YORKER. KRAFT PLANS TO ARRIVE IN DAMASCUS ABOUT APTIL 10 AND TO BE THERE OFF AND ON THROUGH MOST OF REST OF MONTH. HE WANTS TO SEE WIDE RANGE OF PEOPLE, I.E. POLITICAL LEADERS INCLUDING IF POSSIBLE PRESIDENT ASAD AND FONMIN KHADDAM, LEADERS OF BAATH PARTY, COMMUNIST PARTY, WRITERS, JOURNALISTS AND PROFESSORS. WOULD ALSO LIKE TO GO TO HOMS, ALEPPO AND EUPHRATES DAM.

2. KRAFT HAS DISCUSSED HIS PLANS WITH SYRIAN INTERESTS SECTION CHIEF KABBANI, WHO TELLS US HE IS REFERRING MATTER TO FOREIGN MINISTRY INFORMATION DEPARTMENT. WE GATHER KABBANI IS RECOMMENDING FOREIGN MINISTRY COOPERATE WITH KRAFT. KABBANI REMARKED THAT DESPITE KRAFT'S KNOWN SYMPATHIES HE FEELS KRAFT IS OPEN-MINDED AND HE WAS IMPRESSED BY FAIRNESS OF KRAFT'S NEW YORKER LETTER FROM CAIRO.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 STATE 060247

3. WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR ADVISING FONMIN THAT KRAFT IS

APPLYING FOR VISA THROUGH SYRIAN INTERESTS SECTION  
AND OF HIS PLANS AS PER PARA ONE ABOVE.

4. ANGUS DEMING, NEWSWEEK BUREAU CHIEF IN JERUSALEM,  
PLANS TO VISIT SYRIA EN ROUTE TO UNITED STATES SOME  
TIME DURING NEXT TWO WEEKS. DEMING, WHO WILL BE  
ACCOMPANIED BY HIS WIFE, HOPES TO VISIT ALEPOO AS WELL AS  
DAMASCUS. HE HAS BEEN IN SYRIA RECENTLY AND SO ANTI-  
CIPATES NO VISA OR ENTRY PROBLEMS. DEMING WILL CONTACT  
USINT UPON ARRIVAL. RUSH

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 26 MAR 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** MorefiRH  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974STATE060247  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** DAKORN:JFC  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D740065-0888  
**From:** STATE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1974/newtext/t19740314/aaaaampm.tel  
**Line Count:** 71  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ORIGIN NEA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** MorefiRH  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 13 AUG 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <13-Aug-2002 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <05-Sep-2002 by MorefiRH>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** VISITS BY JOSEPH KRAFT AND ANGUS DEMING OF NEWSWEEK  
**TAGS:** OTRA, SY, US, (KRAFT, JOSEPH)  
**To:** DAMASCUS  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005